

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 304990
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 AID-05 OPIC-03 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /053 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:JWSWIHART:JKB
APPROVED BY EUR/WE - REBARBOUR
EB/OIA - ECONSTABLE

----- 039396 /21

R 162050Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMCONSUL MILAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 304990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, BBAK, IT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO TORRINGTON PROBLEM?

REF: GENOA 656 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

1. AT THE INITIATIVE OF TORRINGTON WASHINGTON REPRESENTA-
TIVE (TUCKER), DEPTOFF MET DECEMBER 14 WITH JOHN R. BABSON,
VICE PRESIDENT AND WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE OF INGERSOLL-
RAND, TORRINGTON'S PARENT CORPORATION.

2. BABSON, WHO UNTIL RECENTLY WAS VICE PRESIDENT IN CHARGE
OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, RELATED THAT HIS COMPANY IS
SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING SELLING ITS ITALIAN SUBSIDIARY, NEGRI
BOSSI SPA OF MILAN. SALE WOULD BE PART OF A WORLDWIDE
DIVESTITURE OF INGERSOLL-RAND'S LOW-PROFIT PLASTICS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 304990

MOLDING MACHINERY PRODUCT LINE. HE SAID THAT THE FIRM'S
ITALIAN MANAGER, MR. FRANCO ROSATTI (SP?), ALONG WITH OTHER
INVESTORS AND PERHAPS WORKERS, IS PREPARED TO MAKE A BID
IF SUFFICIENT FINANCING CAN BE OBTAINED. ROSATTI INDICATED
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO LINE UP A \$5 MILLION IMI LOAN TOWARDS
THE APPROXIMATELY \$10 MILLION NEEDED TO BUY OUT THE MILAN

PLANT, WHICH EMPLOYS SOME 200 WORKERS.

3. AT PRESENT, NEGRI BOSSI PRODUCES MACHINERY ONLY, NOT

PLASTIC END PRODUCTS. ROSATTI HAS EXPRESSED TO INGERSOLL-RAND AN INTEREST IN ACQUIRING TORRINGTON'S GENOA PLANT, ALLOWING THE CONNECTICUT FIRM TO REMOVE ITS NEEDLE-MAKING MACHINERY, IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM IT INTO A PLASTICS FACTORY EQUIPPED WITH NEGRI BOSSI MACHINERY. HE BELIEVES THAT THIS PLAN WOULD BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY ENHANCE HIS CHANCES OF OBTAINING ENOUGH IMI OR OTHER GOI FINANCING TO PURCHASE NEGRI BOSSI.

4. BOTH INGERSOLL-RAND AND TORRINGTON WOULD BE PLEASED IF ROSATTI'S PLAN PANNED OUT. BABSON SAID HIS COMPANY WOULD BE PREPARED TO APPROACH THE GOI TO FACILITATE FINANCING FOR THE ITALIAN BUYERS WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF AN EQUITABLE RESOLUTION OF THE 17-MONTH WORKER OCCUPATION OF THE TORRINGTON PLANT IN GENOA.

5. INGERSOLL-RAND PLANS TO ENCOURAGE ROSATTI TO PROCEED. IF THE SITUATION DEVELOPS TO THE POINT WHERE DIRECT INGERSOLL-RAND DISCUSSIONS WITH GEPI OR MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY COULD BE PRODUCTIVE, INGERSOLL-RAND WILL LET DEPT KNOW.

6. THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS FOR POSTS' BACKGROUND ONLY. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST, DEPTOFF GAVE BABSON NAME OF CONGEN FINA AS POSSIBLE CONTACT ROSATTI MAY WISH TO MAKE IN MILAN.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 304990

ROBINSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, SALES, BUSINESS FIRMS, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE304990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWSWIHART:JKB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760464-0312
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761236/aaaabewl.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GENOA 656
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO TORRINGTON PROBLEM?
TAGS: EINV, BBAK, IT
To: ROME GENOA MILAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006